

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—**St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated** to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

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Term 4 Week 6

29th November 2011

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

As we focus on the concluding school functions for the end of 2011, it is important to remember that learning doesn't stop on 16th December and begin again on 31st January.

Learning is continuous and for our pupils to continue to achieve it is important that their learning continues over the six week summer break.

This doesn't mean of course formal school setting each day but rather informal learning through games, focused activities and role modelling.

Here are some ideas that may work for you:

Give children some Christmas presents that ensure learning e.g. board games, puzzle books, and of course books for them to read. Each day spend some time visibly reading, this will show your children that reading is a grownup and a cool thing to do. Play games with your children, especially board games as this will encourage them, children love playing against their parents! Read to your children regularly and discuss what is happening in the story and why, I am reading the Hobbit to Emily at the moment and each night she tells me what happened the previous night.

When you are travelling by car play games like: I spy, animal, vegetable and mineral, or twenty questions. They are great for learning and also help the trip to go more smoothly.

When playing sports such as darts, table tennis, cricket or even basket ball, get your children to score and ask questions like if Ricky Ponting is on 87 how many more runs does he need to make 100? And what is 100 in cricket?

Learning is fun, it is on going and it is essential to our continued development.

Sometimes their questions may seem unnecessary but remember that's how they learn.

A recent study carried out in the USA showed that the learning that pupils did outside school was the difference between those who achieved and those who didn't, so a six week period will have a huge effect on your child.

Over the next couple of weeks we will put down more simple ideas to help you support your child's learning over the Christmas break.

Have a great week, Mike Brosnahan.

Senior School Swimming Lessons with Swimsation



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

Smart Lunches

Hot Smart lunches are no longer available on a Wednesday over the summer months. Cold Smart lunches are still available.

Prices are \$3.50 and Lg \$4.50



Monte Carlo lunches are available on Fridays only.
- see the school office if you need a price list.

St Marys PTA Christmas Trail

The PTA have arranged to do a Christmas Trail this year, on Sunday 18th December 7.30-9.30pm.

Come and join in for a drive around Mosgiel to see the Christmas decorations and lights on houses and gardens.

Tickets only cost \$5pp, available at the school office, AMI Mosgiel, and Rosies Gift Shop.

Please invite family and friends to join us and enjoy this magical time of the year.

Singers wanted to sing Christmas Carols at our Christmas trail. These children will only be required for about 45 minutes.

Please give your name to the school office if you are available, thanks.



Lost Property

We have an overflowing lost property bin, please take a minute to check and see if anything belongs to your children.

Altar Servers Sunday 27th November
Josh & Emma Hyde, & Paige O'Brien.

Looking Ahead Term 4

November

29th—2nd Life Education Bus

December

2nd **Vaughan Hook's Ordination 7pm**

3rd **Vaughan Hook's Thanksgiving Mass 11am**

5th Matinee—school production 1pm

7/8th School Production 7pm

13th First Reconciliation 7pm

PTA BBQ lunch (provided)

14th Kavanagh Production Rms 5-7

BOT Meeting 7.30pm

15th Final Mass 6pm, farewell to our Yr 8 pupils—all pupils to be in uniform.

16th Clean up morning, children to be pickup by lunch time please.

First Day Back for Term 1 2012 is Tuesday 31st January.

Uniform Reminder

Please check that your child is wearing the correct uniform, while the end of the year is getting closer we also are involved in more public outings so the uniform and standard of dress of our pupils comes under more scrutiny.

Areas of concern that I have noted are:
Children not wearing the correct school shoes (black leather).

Girls with long hair that is either one not tied back or is ties with incorrect ties (navy blue, black or maroon ties (no fancy clips).

Girls with either nor than one small stud type earring per ear, or larger or colourful earrings.

The concept behind a uniform is to ensure that the appearance of all of our pupils is neat, tidy and the same (uniform), this discourages competition and dress appearance becoming outrageous. I thank you for your support in this matter. Mike Brosnahan

Congratulations to Mrs Anne Kenneally on her recent graduation.



Enrolments 2012

Next years enrolments are already very healthy.

I would be most grateful if you would let me know of any enrolments to our school that I maybe unaware about, either yours personally or ones that you know, so that I can follow up.

This is very important in allowing us to best arrange classes for next year. Thank you.

-Mike Brosnahan

A thought for the week...

"Three things in human life are important.

The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind"

-Henry James

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Christmas Trail

Come and join us for a drive around Mosgiel to see the Christmas decorations and lights on houses and in gardens at this magical time of year.

Drinks, nibbles, Christmas treats and entertainment will be at the houses, along with Santa!

Sunday 18th December 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at St Mary's School at 7:15 pm to be provided with a map and further instructions on which house to visit first.

Tickets \$5 per person

Available from Rosie's Gift Shop, AMI Mosgiel or St Mary's School office

Queries to Kate 484 7712

Recently started at St Mary's School

Welcome to our school community:
Jaya Anderson to Room 1,
John Warman to Room 2,
Ethan Rangitutia to Room 3, and
Mia Warman to Room 6.



"Christmas Celebration" School Production

Tickets for our Christmas Performance will be on sale from the start of next week. We are having a performance on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December, 7pm.

You need to purchase tickets for the evening you wish to attend. There are a limited number of tickets for each night's show.

Tickets cost \$2 per person and can be purchased from the school foyer from the 28th November – 7th December at 8:45 – 9 am.

Alternatively you can send an envelope to your child's class teacher stating the exact number of tickets required, the preferred night and the correct money for the tickets, gold coin donation welcome. Tickets are not available directly from the school office.

There is a Matinee performance on Monday the 5th of December. This show does not require tickets.

Many thanks
Judy Baines (Ticket Co-ordinator)

